

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 DHA-02

/077 W

-----101523Z 019452 /53

O R 101331Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5856

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 LUSAKA 1633

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF US UN SF WA

SUBJ: NAMIBIA: WESTERN INITIATIVE - ZAMBIA

CANADIAN HIGH COMMISSIONER HAS ASKED OUR ASSISTANCE IN TRANSMITTING THE MESSAGE GIVEN BELOW (OTTAWA FOR CANADIAN EXTERNAL AFFAIRS FOR FRANCIS, U.N. OPERATIONS DIVISION; CAPE TOWN FOR CANADIAN EMBASSY, USUN FOR CANADIAN MISSION AND LONDON FOR CANADIAN HIGH COMMISSION). WE ARE SENDING MESSAGE TO OTHER ADDRESSEES FOR THEIR INFORMATION ONLY. CANADIAN MESSAGE IS AS FOLLOWS:

QUOTE:

REF: OURTEL 0921 JUN9

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NEITHER/NEITHER MILNER NOR/NOR OFFICIALS REACTED IN ANY WAY TO REF IN ORAL BRIEFING TO POLITICAL PRISONERS QUOTE OUTSIDE SOUTH AFRICA AND NAMIBIA UNQUOTE. SEE OURTEL 0923 JUN 9 RE CHANGED STATUS IN ZAMBIA.

2. WHILE QUESTIONS POSED BY MILNER FOLLOWING BRIEFING REFLECTED ACUTE MIND AND ONE FRESH TO NAMIBIAN QUESTION IN

5/5 CONTEXT, HE WAS GIVEN FIFTEEN MINUTES BRIEFING BY NGONDA BEFORE I JOINED THEM. NGONDA ALSO CONTRIBUTED HIS SHARE OF POINTED QUESTIONS. IT WAS NECESSARY TO DEAL WITH THESE QUESTIONS. HOWEVER, IN MY RESPONSES I SAID I WOULD PASS THEM ON AND I MADE THE POINT CLEARLY THAT I HAD NO/NO BRIEF TO SPEAK FOR LSAKA 5/5 BEYOND CONVEYING THE BRIEFING ALREADY DONE.

3. SUMMARY OF MAIN POINTS FOLLOWS. (A) MILNER REFERRED TO ZAMBIA, OAU AND UN POSITION THAT SWAPO IS QUOTE SOLE LEGITIMATE REP OF NAMIBIAN PEOPLES UNQUOTE IN CONTEXT OF BRIEFING NOTES REFERENCE TO QUOTE VARIOUS NAMIBIAN POLITICAL GROUPS INCLUDING SWAPO UNQUOTE. HE DID NOT/NOT APPEAR TO THINK MUCH OF THE POLITICAL REALITIES OF OTHER PARTIES WITHIN NAMIBIA AND IT APPEARED THAT ZAMBIA'S POSITION ON SWAPO AS THE QUOTE ONLY REPRESENTATIVE UNQUOTE IS DIFFERENT TO THAT WITH RESPECT TO ZIMBABWEAN PATRIOTIC FRONT. IN LATTER CASE, KAUNDA HAS OF COURSE BEEN AT PAINS TO MAKE DISTINCTION THAT PATRIOTIC FRONT IS ONLY FIGHTING FORCE BUT ZAMBIA DOES NOT/NOT INTEND TO PUSH ONE GROUP OR OTHER ON ZIMBABWEAN PEOPLE AS THEIR FUTURE POLITICAL LEADERS. (B) MILNER ASKED WHETHER WE DID NOT/NOT FEAR OUR CONTACT GROUP WOULD BE QUOTE USED UNQUOTE BY RSA TO DELAY MATTERS EVEN FURTHER. QUOTE SPEAKING FRANKLY UNQUOTE HE REFERRED TO OUR QUOTE PLAYING AROUND UNQUOTE WITH VORSTER. I SAID I BELIEVED WE HAD ALREADY ACHIEVED ON RESULT, HOLDING OFF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TURNHALLE ARRANGEMENT. WE WERE, OF COURSE, WELL AWARE OF VARIOUS DANGERS IN THE WHOLE EXERCISE BUT BELIEVED IT HAD SO FAR WELL JUSTIFIED ITSELF. (C) A FURTHER QUESTION IN CONFIDENTIAL

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THIS CONTEXT WAS WHETHER WE DID NOT/NOT THINK WE WERE SIMPLY MAINTAINING THE STATUS QUO BY TURNING OFF TURNHALLE. IN OTHER WORDS SETTING THE CLOCK BACK. I RESPONDED IN THE NEGATIVE AND EMPHASIZED THAT THE REVERSE WAS SO: IF ALL CONCERNED COULD NOW HOPE FOR SOMETHING BETTER THAN TURNHALLE THAT CERTAINLY WAS A STEP FORWARD. (D) IS CONTACT GROUP NOT/NOT INHIBITED BY THE FACT OF OUR INVESTMENT ETC. IN RSA/NAMIBIA. NGONDA MADE ANALOGY HERE OF A BARN WITH NEIGHBOUR'S GOODS (NAMELY 5/5'S) IN IT. DOES THIS NOT/ NOT INHIBIT OUR PUTTING A BULLDOZER OVER IT. MY RESPONSE TO THIS WAS THAT SOMETHING MIGHT NEVERTHELESS BE SAVED INSIDE THE BARN FOR THE BENEFIT OF ALL NAMIBIANS. I COMMENTED THAT WESTERN 5/5 ARE SERIOUS AND NOT/NOT QUOTE PLAYING AROUND UNQUOTE. BETWEEN THE TWO DRASTIC EXTREMES, WAR AND DESTRUCTION ON THE ONE HAND AND MORE DRASTIC UN ACTION ON THE OTHER, THERE WAS A ROLE FOR A GROUP SUCH AS OURS TO PLAY. APART FROM THE IMMEDIATE RESULT REFERRED TO ABOVE, WE ARE INCREASING VORSTER GOVT'S AWARENESS OF THE REALITIES OF THE FORMER WITHIN NAMIBIA AND THE POSSIBILITIES

OF LATTER. I BELIEVED WE WERE IN NO/NO WAY PROVIDING A
WAY OUT FOR RSA THROUGH OUR EXPLORATIONS; THESE ARE IMBEDDED
FIRMLY WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF RESLN 385 TOWARDS AN
INNATLY/INNATLY ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION. (E) WOULD IT
NOT/NOT HAVE BEEN BETTER TO HAVE INCLUDED IN CONTACT GROUP
SOMEONE OTHER THAN WESTERN FIVE. FOR EXAMPLE, A LATIN AMERICAN
COUNTRY OF SOME MEMBER OF NAMIBIA COUNCIL SUCH AS YUGOSLAVIA.
I POINTED OUT THAT RAISON D'ETRE OF WESTERN 5/5 GROUP WAS
ITS PRESENT COMPOSITION, NAMELY COUNTRIES WITH AN INTEREST
IN THE PROBLEM AND WITH AN ENTREE TO SOUTH AFRICAN GOVT.
IT SEEMED TO ME THAT THIS RAISON D'ENTRE WOULD BE DESTROYED
AND THE DOOR CLOSED BY INCLUDING AN UNINVOLVED COUNTRY FROM
LATIN AMERICA OR AN EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRY. I REMINDED

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 LUSAKA 1633

MILNER OF CANADA'S BILATERAL DEMARCHE LAST AUGUST WITH RESPECT
TO NAMIBIA. THAT ACTION WAS CONSISTENT WITH REQUESTS TO US
FROM AFRICAN FRIENDS, PARTICULARLY IN THE COMMONWEALTH, QUOTE
TO DO SOMETHING UNQUOTE ABOUT NAMIBIA. WHILE CANADA HAD A MORAL
WEIGHT, IT HAS NOW JOINED WITH OTHERS POSSESSING GREATER CLOUT
THAN IT DOES. I REFERRED TO THE UN MAPUTO DECLARATION WHICH

HAD NOT/NOT SPECIFIED SWAPO AS AN EXCLUSIVE REPRESENTATIVE/
REPRESENTATIVE AND TO THE SPIRIT OF THE CONFERENCE AND ITS
DECLARATION WHICH GAVE BLESSING TO EVERYONE TO DO HIS OWN
THING: ALL HAD THE SAME FINAL OBJECTIVE, A SPEEDY SOLUTION OF
THE PROBLEM AND EVERY CHANNEL TO THAT END WAS ACCEPTED. AT ONE
POINT MILNER SPOKE RATHER WITH THE VOICE OF HIS REGULAR JOB
AS HOME AFFAIRS MIN (AND WITH A TOUCH OF BITTERNESS) IN
REFERRING TO CLASHES AT TWO POINTS ON THE NAMIBIAN/ZAMBIAN
BORDER INVOLVING RSA FORCES ON THE ONE SIDE AND ZAMBIANS ON
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THE OTHER. (F) ONE OF NGONDA'S QUESTIONS WAS WHETHER WE FORESAW
THE CURRENT EXPLORATIONS AS SPINNING OUT INDEFINITELY SAY FOR
ANOTHER FIVE YEARS. IN THAT CASE WHAT WOULD HAPPEN NEXT YEAR:
WOULD TWO OTHER NON-PERMANENT SECURITY COUNCIL MEMBERS REPLACE
CANADA AND FRG ON THE WESTERN FIVE. MY RESPONSE WAS THAT OUR
SENSE OF URGENCY MUST BE APPARENT - WE HAD SPOKEN OF
RESUMED DISCUSSION WITH SOUTH AFRICANS BY ABOUT THE END OF
MAY AND HERE WE WERE ENGAGING IN THEM IN THIS FIRST WEEK
OF JUNE. THE QUESTION OF THE COMPOSITION OF A 1978
WESTERN FIVE THEREFORE SEEMED TO ME BOTH FUTURISTIC AND
REALLY IRRELEVANT. I EMPHASIZED MY BELIEF WE WERE ALL
WORKING WITHIN A VERY NARROW TIME-SPAN DICTATED BY THE
URGENT REALITIES OF THE NAMIBIAN SITUATION. TO SPEAK IN
TERMS OF FIVE MONTHS (LET ALONGE FIVE YEARS) WAS OUT OF
CONTEXT.

4. ZAMBIAN QUESTIONS WERE SERIOUSLY POSED BUT WERE OF AN
EXPLORATORY NATURE. POINT WHICH I FOUND NECESSARY TO
REITERATE WAS THAT ROLE OF WESTERN 5/5 IS CATALYTIC AND ITS
OBJECTIVE IS TO PAVE THE WAY FOR AND BRING TOGETHER THE
NEGOTIATORS DIRECTLY CONCERNED, ALL WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK
OF RESLN 385. TOWARDS END OF MTG, I REFERRED AGAIN TO
POSITIVE REACTION OF ZAMBIAN GOVT TO WESTERN 5/5 INITIATIVE
(EG MIN OF STATE SILWIZYA'S MAY9 COMMENT). MILNER PROMPTLY
RESPONDED THAT THIS WAS NOT/NOT CHANGED: QUOTE YOU
HAVE OUR BLESSING UNQUOTE. MOORE.
END QUOTE.

CLINGERMAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Executive Order: GS
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